

A M E R I C A N JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS

AND

Bulletin of the American Numismatic and Archæological Society.

VOL. II.

NEW YORK, JULY, 1867.

No. 3.

PUBLISHED AT NEW YORK, ON THE FIRST DAY OF EVERY MONTH.

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DEVICES.

IN commencing an inquiry as to the best mode of improving the devices of our National Coinage, we might, if we were actuated by an uncompromising philosophic spirit, and disposed to begin with the "*primordia rerum*", endeavor to ascertain how far a Government is responsible for the promotion of Art among its constituents. But let us waive this question, and assume as a postulate, that it *is* one of the duties of a good government to encourage the Fine Arts. Our own Congress and State Legislatures have again and again recognized this principle, both by voting the public money for creations of pure art, such as paintings, statues, and medals; and by providing, to the extent of their knowledge and resources, for giving to works of general utility forms pleasing to the taste. Self-respect and a desire to uphold the national dignity are blended, in such a policy, with a wish to refine and elevate the popular mind through the contemplation of the beautiful; and we assert, without fear of contradiction, that by no agency can these objects be so conveniently and effectually accomplished, as by a coinage of masterly mechanical execution and exquisite artistic design.

As a preliminary to our further remarks, we declare our unqualified approval of the project, now under consideration in a conference of publicists of different nations in Paris, to make the Five-Franc piece in gold the common unit of money of the civilized world. The decimal monetary system of France, already adopted in Belgium, Switzerland, and the kingdom of Italy, may, by a slight reduction in the value of the American Dollar, its fractions, and its multiples, be brought into exact correspondence with our own. Our Dime would in that case become the equivalent of half a French Franc; our Half-Dollar, that of two Francs and a half; and the denominations above the Unit as well as below it would, in all countries participating in this wise agreement, respectively accord. The name "*dollar*" would probably become universal. In Germany, where the Five-Franc piece does not harmonize as yet with the established currency, it is nevertheless commonly called the "*Five-Franc Dollar*".

If we may give to our observations on the main subject the form of, first, Axioms, or evident truths; and, secondly, Theorems, or propositions to be maintained, we will begin with an Axiom scarcely worth laying down but for the sake of system:—Every legend or inscription on a United States coin should be in the English language. This practice has indeed been invariably followed in our Mint—with the exception of the "*E Pluribus Unum*", which disappeared, without being missed,

some time ago—ever since its establishment, and the imitation of the French Republic of that epoch, in the use of the vernacular, is in advantageous contrast with that pursued in many previous colonial and soi-disant state emissions. Taking the mottoes and other lettering of these series as his evidence, from the "*Crescite et Multiplicamini*" of Lord Baltimore's silver down to the "*Liber natus libertatem defendo*" of independent New York, a theorist might argue that Latin was, equally with English, the language of the American colonists.

As a second Axiom, we advance:—In no case whatever ought the portrait of a person living at the moment to be placed on a coin. Against making use, for that purpose, of the effigy of the President for the time being, our small esteem for mere official station, our instinctive hostility to any resurrection of "*L'Etat c'est Moi*", and the decided disapprobation of Washington, established in the popular belief, though, as far as we are aware, by no documentary proof, are reasons not to be shaken. It may seem hard that death should thus be made the condition of immortality, but such is the constitution of human things. The Emperor Augustus knew that he could not call on his friends to clap their hands, till he had finished playing his part; and we may not judge whether a man has been useful, till his career has closed.

Our first Theorem is this:—To do ourselves honor, to excite emulation in other citizens, to keep in remembrance great services done to the state, great benefits to humanity, the figure of some distinguished person deceased, whether statesman, warrior, author, inventor, artist, or philanthropist, should, by Act of Congress—*Senatus Consulto*, as the S. C. of the Romans, on their copper, indicated—be, for a stated time, impressed on the Obverse of a designated coin. The silver dollar might thus be appropriated to statesmen, the half-dollar to warriors, the smaller silver to inventors, the copper to philanthropists—for these last circulate among the poor as well as the rich. The gold coins we would reserve for the busts of artists, men of science, and men of letters. Their reputation is the "*fine fleur*" in a nation's garland of glory, as the gold unit is the expected standard for calculating her pecuniary wealth. In the course of years, of centuries, what a portrait-gallery would result from the application of a rule like this! How thoroughly democratic would the principle be; and again, how aristocratic, aristocratic in the true sense, by commemorating personal excellence and personal nobility!

The second Theorem which we propose is the following:—Let every form of Allegorical Personification be excluded from the National Coinage! Let every abstract idea, represented by an animate figure with conventional attributes, be at once and forever banished from numismatic fields! Why? Because they do not, and never did, correspond with the forms of modern thought. These types and symbols belong to antique philosophy. In the shapes of gods and goddesses they were given to the vulgar to worship, while the initiated alone understood the mystery of their origin. Whatever remnants of such a system may still remain and be blindly venerated in religious circles, the practical American mind of to-day knows them not in common life. Must we then bid farewell to our time-honored figure of Liberty? Yes! let her go, with her hateful Phrygian cap, the badge of the emancipated slave! Our revolutionary sires adopted it with some propriety. They might say, in the exaggeration of political excitement, that they were born slaves; but, thanks to them, we were not. Besides, such a figure, even with the label here customary, is positively unmeaning. In the work called "*Souvenirs Numismatiques de la Révolution de 1848*", may be seen a remarkable collection of heads of Liberty, designed for the new coinage of that date by the best die-cutters in France. Discarding the Liberty-Cap, they have tortured their imaginations to produce female heads; with helmets; with fillets, inscribed or not; with garlands of leaves, flowers, wheat-ears; with rays; with lion-skin hoods; one with a mural crown; and one design actually with a coronal of nine little babies: and the impression which the aggregate leaves on the mind, is that of half a hundred, more or less beautiful, portraitures, in fantastic head-dresses, of the "*chères amies*" of the

artists, with no more significance than any set of photographs or miniatures of women would have, or the head of Baron Rothschild's mistress on the dollars of the late Free City of Frankfort actually possesses.

We offer for consideration as a third Theorem:—The general idea of the Reverse of our coins should be similar to that of those French silver pieces, whereon the denomination and the date are expressed in large characters within a heavy wreath of olive or oak, or both; the legend "United States of America" being inscribed outside of the wreath. But, as the olive and the oak are meaningless to our popular mind, there should be substituted a rich garland of American agricultural products, with engines and machines combined with ships and other instruments of commerce about its base. The three chief departments of a nation's material labor and wealth, Agriculture, Manufactures, and Commerce, would thus be exemplified by a species of artistic metonymy, a presentation of the effect for the cause, and of the agents for the action, which our countrymen would understand and relish, while they would laugh at the anchor of Hope, or the bandaged eyes of Justice. The American Eagle, even, has long been viewed by them with similar disfavor, as all armorial bearings should be, those shreds and scraps of feudalism.

As a fourth Theorem, and a conclusion to these crude suggestions, we would remind our readers of the immense and interesting variety of delineations, which European silver coins, particularly the large German dollars, offer. Though occupying, commonly, the Reverse, they may with equal propriety be placed on the Obverse of a piece. Representations of famous buildings and public works, of columns and statues, of whole cities, occur on these specimens; and they are as beautiful to the eye as they are historically remarkable. Should we fail to find heroes to immortalize on our coinage, the Capitol at Washington and similar public edifices there and in our other cities, or the cities themselves, may occasionally supply their absence.—But we have said enough, perhaps, to open the discussion of the subject; and we trust that some contributor will take it up, and pursue it farther. A judicious survey of the ground must precede its satisfactory cultivation.

COAL MONEY.

In Smedmore, in the parish of Great Kimeridge, Dorset Co., England, near the seat of the late George Clavel, Esq., is found a remarkable curiosity, undoubtedly artificial, made of Kimeridge coal, and known among the country people as "coal money".

This "money", as it is called, is generally discovered in the tops of the cliffs, two or three feet below the surface, enclosed between two stones set edgewise, and covered with a third stone. The enclosures always contain a quantity of these curiosities, which are usually found mingled with a few bones of some animal. Specimens of this "money" are also sometimes met with in the grounds adjoining, near the surface, and it is observable that where they lie is made ground.

They are circular in shape, and are from one to two or three inches in diameter, and about a quarter of an inch thick. One side is flat; and on the other, which is convex, are generally several mouldings. On the flat side are two, and sometimes four, round holes near the rim, but these holes do not go through the piece. They are probably the centre holes in which the pieces were fixed in the turning press.

Antiquarians do not doubt that they are British antiquities, but whether they are amulets or money is not so well agreed. It is not probable that they were amulets, for those exhibited by Mr. Camden, 1st Ed. p. 695, and by Dr. Stukely, in his "Stone-henge", p. 44, table 33, entirely differ from these we have described both in shape and material. The former are chiefly globular or cubical, with a hole pierced through them, and the latter are glass, earth, or amber.

Specimens of the "coal money" have been discovered in the cliffs at Flowers Barrow, an ancient camp near East Lullworth, and some years since there was found on the sea shore near Kimeridge, a bowl, six inches in diameter, and of equal height, but shallow, made of this coal, and containing a few pieces of this "money".

It is worth mentioning that "cole" is a cant word: and a common expression in Dorset and some other counties in England, is "*down with your cole*", i. e., pay your money, corresponding with the Americanism, "*down with your cash*."

C. I. B.

TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

NOTICE.—*The American Numismatic and Archæological Society will be at all times pleased to communicate with any individuals or Societies, on Numismatic or Archæological topics, to answer questions and give all information desired. Letters of inquiry addressed to "Prof. CHAS. E. ANTHON, Cor. Sec'y, College of the City of New York," will receive prompt attention.*

Regular Meeting, June 13th, 1867.—At the house of Vice-President Perine. Mr. Ten Eyck, President, in the chair.

After the transaction of the current business, the following Donations were presented; five copies of a work on the History of Bills of Credit, &c., by J. H. Hickox, from the author; a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Boston Numismatic Society; and from R. W. Mc Lachlan, Esq., of Montreal, a box containing specimens of antiquities discovered by him, at from three to eighteen inches below the surface, on the bank of a dried-up brook which at one time flowed through that city, or rather, through the Indian village of Hochelaga, which occupied its site in the time of Jacques Cartier. All the objects found were in a broken condition, as the spot seems to have been a refuse-heap. The principal ones were: numerous fragments of pottery, indicating considerable gracefulness of design, and ornamented with linear tracings in a style far from inelegant; pieces of pipe; beaver's incisor-teeth and jaw; bones of undetermined animals; and a part of a ladle made, apparently, of a human skull. The thanks of the Society were voted for these Donations.

Dr. Wm. C. Horne, and J. A. Amelung, Jr. were elected Resident Members; and Messrs. Alonzo A. Brock, of Richmond, Va., and C. P. Nichols, of Springfield, Mass., proposed by Mr. Levick, were elected Corresponding Members.

Rev. Wm. Wood Seymour then read his Paper on "The History and Antiquities of THE CROSS". He demonstrated, with much learning and copious illustration, the great antiquity of the reverence paid to this sacred symbol as the emblem of life, in Egypt and elsewhere, long before the Christian Era; and also shewed the wide geographical extent of this knowledge and veneration, extending, as they did, to the aborigines of America. These remarks, and his concluding ones on the applications of the Cross, in its many varieties, to numismatic uses, were listened to with profound attention; and a vote of thanks was unanimously passed, accompanied by the expression of a hope that Mr. Seymour would be able to repeat his discourse before a larger audience at an early day.

On motion, adjourned.

JAMES OLIVER, *Recording Secretary.*

Special Meeting, June 20, 1867.—At the house of President Ten Eyck. The President in the chair.

The following report was read by Mr. Hewitt, discussed, adopted, and ordered to be transmitted:

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY:

The Committee on American Coins and Medals, to which was referred a Letter dated May 22, 1867, from Wm. E. Dubois, Esq., of the United States Mint, Philadelphia, respectfully report:

That, after attentively considering the questions involved in this friendly consultation of the Society, they have reached the following conclusions; which they proceed definitely to state, as embodying their opinions:

1. The policy of re-striking the Regular Series is not considered expedient; as a reproduction of the issues of previous years obtainable at once from the Department, would greatly tend to decrease the interest taken by Numismatists in the collection of the annual coinage.
2. A certain number of Proof-Sets of the Regular Issue of each year should be furnished at the present fair prices, one set to each citizen making application personally or by letter, and known personally or by signature to the authorities of the Mint. Notice should be given, by advertisement, when such Proof-Sets are ready; and Applications, limited as to time of reception, should then be immediately receivable. These should be filled in the order of date, till the stated number struck be exhausted; after which no more should be furnished to any one, either in that year or in any succeeding year.
3. Pattern-Pieces should be distributed on exactly the same system. A certain number should be struck; they should be advertised; sold at a fair price, each citizen having the right to purchase one; and no more should be furnished after reaching the limit, either in that year or in any year following. Of course, if any Pattern should be struck near the close of the year, and impressions should remain in the Mint, they might, as is the practice with Proof-Sets, be distributed, as long as they lasted, to those who might wish them: but none should ever be struck after the date which they bear.
4. As sufficient facilities have not perhaps been afforded to citizens for the acquisition of Pattern-Pieces of previous years, a limited number of these might be re-struck, as an exceptional occurrence, never to be repeated. They should be advertised, and their price made to correspond with their present average price at auction-sales; and, after applicants had been supplied they should never again be re-issued.
5. The practice known as "Muling", and the taking of impressions in metals other than the legitimate and appropriate one, should be strictly prohibited in the United States Mint.

6. The subject of the improvement of our Coinage, in regard to Devices, requires a broader treatment than we can here attempt. It is a difficult and delicate problem, and we are promised that the next number of our Society's Bulletin, the *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS* for July, shall contain an Essay on this theme. To the *JOURNAL* we accordingly refer for an expression of our views on this most interesting topic.

All which is respectfully submitted,

R. HEWITT, JR., *Chairman*.

In anticipation of the Transactions of the next meeting, we may here state that the Society was promptly honored by the annexed courteous acknowledgment, from the Director of the Mint, of his reception of the above communication :

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES, PHILADELPHIA, June 24, 1867.

PROFESSOR C. E. ANTHON :

DEAR SIR :—I return my thanks to you, and the Society you represent, for the Report upon proposed regulations for the future issue of Medals and Cabinet-Coins from the United States Mint. It has been made with much care and judgment; and its provisions will be, in the main, reproduced in my forthcoming Circular Letter. I have reluctantly deviated in one or two minor particulars; but the reasons will be given, and I think you will be satisfied with them.

The Circular will be issued on the first of July, to correspond with the fiscal year; and as many copies as your Society may have need of, will be forwarded to your address. I am, with great respect, your Friend and obedient Servant,

H. R. LINDERMAN, *Director*.

Mr. Levick proposed as Resident Members: Messrs. Colin Lightbody, and E. H. Sanford; and, under a suspension of the rules, they were unanimously elected.

Mr. Robert Hewitt, Jr. read a Paper on "American Political Medals". He animadverted on the want of interest betrayed by many collectors in regard to all presidential series, other than that of Washington; and, after speaking with praise of Mr. Snowden's work on this latter theme, hoped that it might be continued so as to include the subsequent administrations. Of the medallic history of these he gave an interesting review, at the close of which he observed: "in these few series exists a great deal of history; and, unless the future student can rely on some carefully prepared book on the subject, he will be sorely puzzled to find out the derivation of some of the endearing names applied to our chief magistrates."

On motion, the Society adjourned to the second Thursday in October.

JAMES OLIVER, *Recording Secretary*.

NEW ENGLAND NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

At a Special Meeting of the New England Numismatic and Archæological Society, held on the 28th of May, 1867, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year :

President.—Dr. N. B. Shurtleff. *Vice-Presidents*.—Massachusetts, C. S. Fellows; Maine, Dr. Edward M. Field, of Bangor; Vermont, S. Williams, of St. Albans; Rhode Island, Geo. F. Paine, of Providence. *Treasurer*.—H. Cook. *Recording Secretary*.—S. H. Chadbourne. *Corresponding Secretary*.—T. E. Bond. *Curator*.—S. S. Crosby. *Librarian*.—D. R. Childs.

After electing various committees, a proof set of the silver and bronze coins of the United States, for 1867, was presented by Mr. Fellows.

Mr. Crosby presented a collection of forty Colonial coins.

After passing a vote of thanks to the donors, the meeting adjourned.

BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

The Monthly Meeting was held on Thursday, June 6, at 4 P. M. The report of the previous meeting was read and accepted, and Dr. James R. Nichols, of Boston, was duly elected a Resident Member.

Several donations were announced, as, the "Proceedings of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia", from the Society; "The Pleasures of Numismatic Science", from the Author, Henry Phillips, Jr., of Philadelphia; the "Numismatic History of England from 1066, &c., &c.", from Charles Clay, M.D., of Manchester, England, President of the Manchester Numismatic Society.

The Secretary exhibited a collection of forty medals, in silver and copper, relating to Martin Luther, most of which bear his head, either alone or with that of Melancthon. They were generally struck at the various centennial anniversaries of 1517 and 1530; they vary in size from thirty-nine to twelve, and present a great variety of designs. The Society examined the collection with attention, passed some time in animated discussion of matters of numismatic interest, and adjourned at a quarter past five.

RHODE ISLAND NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION.

Regular Meeting, June 17, 1867.—The President in the chair. The Records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The President called up the subject proposed for investigation, and read several extracts from Numismatic authors, relative to the Castorland Half Dollar.

Mr. Herscy read an interesting essay on the same subject, from which we select a few detached passages:

Pierre Chassanis made his purchase on the 31st of August, 1792.

The company was organized in Paris, June 28, 1793.

Dr. B. F. Hough, in an article in the *Historical Magazine*, Vol. IV., No. 2, says, "The stock of the company consisted of 2,000 shares of 800 livres each, and the domain was surveyed out into a city called Castorville, on Beaver river, four miles from Black river, and 4,000 farms of 50 acres each. One farm and one city lot were to be assigned to each shareholder, and the remainder was to continue the common property of the concern until twenty one years, when a final dissolution of the company and division of the property was to be made." Most of the company, however, disappointed in their expectations of ease and comfort, returned in a few years to France, and Castorville, or "Beaver City", was deserted.

The legend on the reverse of the Castorland piece, viz.: SALVE MAGNA PARENS FRUGUM, is quoted from Virgil: Georg. 2, 173.

"Salve magna parens frugum, Saturnia tellus,
Magna virum."

Dryden translates the passage as follows:

"Hail, sweet Saturnian soil! of fruitful grain
Great parent, greater of illustrious men."

Duvivier, who cut the dies for this medal, also executed the medal known as "Washington before Boston."

The seal of the company was of oval form, bearing a beaver and a tree; above the latter, COMPAGNIE DE NEW YORK; and beneath, the word CASTORLAND.

The Secretary then read the following communication from Mr. Woodward, Honorary Member of the Association:

ROXBURY, June 13th, 1867.

Feeling an interest at all times in everything that concerns the Association which I am always proud and happy to call *ours*—and learning incidentally that the history of the Castorland piece is to occupy the attention of the Society at the next regular meeting, I am desirous to contribute my mite, though at the risk of writing what is perfectly familiar to you all. I venture to send some facts concerning the piece which may possibly be new to some.

A full account of the Castorland Company would be that of one of the most romantic episodes of American history. Under most mistaken notions of the nature of the country, a company was formed in Paris, in 1792, to settle a large tract in the State of New York; officers were appointed, a system of laws, embodied in a constitution, was prepared, emigrants were sent out, elaborate surveys were made, and a whole plan of government was put in operation.

This is no place to trace the Company to its ultimate termination.

A volume of records, embracing an account of all the proceedings of the Company, exists in the collection of the Massachusetts Historical Society. This has been transcribed by order of Dr. F. B. Hough, of Albany, and by him translated—the original, of course, being in French—and will probably be published by a celebrated American Book Club, within a short time, with valuable additions from the pen of the learned translator.

The issue of the coin, or jetton rather, was authorized and directed by the ninth article, under Title V. of the constitution, in the following words:

"The Commissioners in Paris shall receive no salary; but, in recognition of the care which they shall bestow upon the common concerns, there shall be given them an attendance fee (*droit de présence*) for each general or special assembly when they may meet on the affairs of the Company. This fee is fixed at two jettons of silver of the weight of four to five gros. They shall be made at the expense of the Company, under the direction of the commissioners, who shall decide upon their form and design."

Under the authority thus given, one of the Duvivier brothers—at that time eminent medalists in Paris—was employed to prepare the dies for the piece. This Duvivier was a stock-holder in the company, having drawn five hundred acres of land.

The design is most beautiful, though, at the same time, not only inappropriate, but strangely *mixed*, as it brings together the sugar season, flowers, and the ripened grain.

The head on the obverse is that of *Cybele*, personifying the earth as inhabited and cultivated; the wreath of laurel, the emblem of victory, signifies that the goddess conquers the wildness and ruggedness of nature, and brings the earth under the dominion, and subservient to the uses of man.

The reverse represents Ceres, who holds in one hand a "bit", with which she has tapped a sugar-maple—in which a faucet, technically a *spile*, is inserted to draw off the sap; in her right arm she supports a cornucopia of flowers, and at her feet lies a sheaf of wheat; thus combining, in a single group, emblems of three seasons.

In the exergue appears a beaver. The obverse inscription is FRANCO-AMERICANA COLONIA (*French-American Colony*), with the name Castorland and date 1796; the reverse, SALVE MAGNA PARENS FRUGUM, a quotation from Virgil, may be rendered "*Hail! great parent of fruits*"; in the original applied to Italy, and thought, no doubt, by the sanguine Frenchmen to be equally applicable to the wilderness of New York.

This piece is not a coin, as it was not issued by authority of any *recognised* government; it is not a token, as it was not to be redeemed; it is simply a jetton, or what we should perhaps term a medalet—a jetton being a small medal, bearing some device, and distributed to be kept in commemoration of some event, or to be used as a “counter.”

The “Castorland” is, or was a *jetton de présence*, or piece given to the members of certain companies or societies when present at any meeting thereof.

Dr. F. B. Hough, to whom I am mainly indebted for these facts, states, that this custom has its analogy in the existing practice of certain stock companies in New York, in which a half or a quarter eagle is given to each director present at each meeting held on the business of the company.

A few years since these pieces were very rare, so much so, that Dr. Riddle, for many years melter and refiner in the United States branch mint at New Orleans, and who, from his position, enjoyed the best of opportunities for seeing all varieties of silver coins, when he wrote his monograph of the silver dollar in 1845, mentioned a specimen in his possession, as being the only one of the kind existing, so far as he knew. He attempts no history, and in his description ventures the guess that the head on the obverse is that of the Goddess of Liberty.

The rarity of *original* specimens seems to show that the piece was not intended or used as a circulating medium. Collectors, perhaps, hardly realize this degree of rarity, but I think I have never seen more than eight or ten undoubted original impressions. Those of modern make are abundant, and the pieces are now struck to order at the French mint, where the dies are still preserved. They may be procured in any of the metals adapted for the purpose. A friend of the writer ordered one a few years since in gold; it is very beautiful, and is said to be still “unique.”*

All collectors have probably noticed an imperfection in one side of the piece, evidently occasioned by some flaw or breakage in the die; some specimens, apparently recent, are free from this, which renders it probable that one of the dies at least exists in duplicate. They are supplied as wanted, struck on planchets of varied thickness, with edges plain or milled, so that a cabinet requires several specimens in order to show the prominent varieties now common.

Accept many thanks for your cordial invitation to be present at a meeting of the Association. That pleasure I still hold in reserve. I do not promise it to myself even, but if my many engagements permit, I shall some evening “drop in” at one of your meetings; and, in case I come, that my visit may not be unwelcome, I shall bring with me, for the inspection of the Society, an 1804 dollar, a Sommer Islands Piece, a Lord Baltimore Penny, and a few other little matters from the Mickley collection, which you are aware I have now in hand.

Yours, very truly,

W. ELLIOT WOODWARD.

The President exhibited a Washington Allston Medal in bronze; Mr. Hersey, the Half Eagle of 1795; and the Secretary a Castorland *jetton* in bronze.

A donation was received from the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia, of a copy of the Proceedings of their Society, from May 4th, 1865, to December 31st, 1866, and the Secretary was requested to acknowledge the same, and convey to them the thanks of the Association therefor. Mr. Paine presented to the Association several pamphlets relating to numismatics.

The Committee on Debates proposed for investigation and discussion at the next meeting, “The Louisiana Coppers.”

After a very interesting meeting, the Association adjourned to September 17th.

JOHN J. MEADER, *Secretary*.

DORDRECHT DOLLARS.

The Dollars, Stivers, and other coins struck at the town of Dordrecht, in Holland, bear the figure of a milkmaid sitting by her cow, which figure is likewise exhibited in relieve on the water-gate of the place. The origin of this device is as follows:

During the noble struggle of the United Provinces for their liberties, the Spaniards detached a body of men from the main army for the purpose of taking Dordrecht by surprise. Some milkmaids belonging to a rich farmer in the vicinity of the town, while on their way to milk their cows at early morn, perceived some soldiers concealed under the hedges. With great presence of mind the maids pursued their occupation, neither evincing any alarm nor in any way noticing the secreted enemy. After finishing their work they returned leisurely home, and on their arrival informed their master of what they had witnessed. Information was immediately given to the Burgomaster, who at once ordered the sluices to be opened and the waters let loose, in consequence of which a large number of the Spaniards were drowned, and the expedition was signally defeated.

The States, in grateful remembrance of the service rendered, ordered a handsome revenue to be assigned the farmer for the loss he had sustained through the overflowing of his lands, rewarded the patriotic maids for their coolness and fidelity, and directed that the event should be perpetuated in the manner above described.

In the year 1609, there was a Gold Medal struck in West Frisia, by the Dutch East India Company, representing on one side a female milking a cow, with the legend: “AVIDI SPES FIDA COLONI,” and on the other the Arms of West Frisia, under a ship, with the legend: “NAUTA ÆQUORA VERRIT TURBIDA.” This medal was evidently struck to commemorate the incident which we have before narrated.

C. I. B.

* A valued contributor, of this city, whose initials will be recognized on this and a previous page as those of a widely-celebrated numismatist, has two impressions in gold, and we have his authority for saying that he is willing to dispose of one of them.—Ed.

TABLE OF CONFEDERATE CURRENCY,

No. 2.

Denomination.	Date of Issue.	Title.	Color.	Design.	Specimens in Dr. Emmet's Collection, Denoted by Sub-Series.	Remarks.
\$10.00	Sep. 2, '61,		White, X red,	{ Portrait of Hunter, left, and of Memminger, right; female figure in centre.*	W.	* Well engraved, at Richmond. A Counterfeit, dated July 25, 1861, has a Confederate flag on a shield between a female and an eagle in centre; and, to left, Hope.
"	"	4th series,	All white,	{ Marion & British officer in centre. Minerva to right, Hunter to left.†	10.	
"	"	Series A,	"	{ Two figures with urn, to left, steam cars to right.†	9. 12.	
"	Sep. 2, '62,		"	{ Portrait of R. M. T. Hunter to right, allegorical figure of Commerce in centre.	K, O, P.	† Poorly engraved, at Columbia, S. C. A Counterfeit of the same date, white, with denomination in red, has three Indian figures in centre, female with trident to left, and female with Indian corn to right.
"	Dec. 2, '62,		{ Pink, ten Xs in blue on back,	{ Richmond Capitol in centre, Hunter to right.	A, D, G, N, H.	
"	"	3d series,	"	"	F.	
"	"	4th "	"	"	E.	‡ A small * indicates two varieties of plate. All the notes of this date in the collection, are stamped with another date in red, across the right hand end.
"	Ap. 6, '63	1st "	{ White, ten Xs in blue on back,	"	E [‡] , F.	
"	"	2d "	"	"	C, F.	
"	Feb. 17, '64,		{ Pink, with wavy surface; blue back, with TENS in centre, and 10 in each corner	{ Artillery-Charge in centre, Hunter in right lower corner.	A, B, C ² , D, E, H ³ .	‡ A Counterfeit, dated July 25, 1861, has, in centre, a female riding a deer; and, in left lower corner, an Indian smoking. Printed at Richmond, and counterfeited. ** Printed at New Orleans, and counterfeited.
"	"	1st series,	"	"	A, D ² , F, G.	
"	"	2d "	"	"	A ² , B, C, D, F, G.	
"	"	3d "	"	"	A, B, C, E, F ² , G, H.	
"	"	4th "	"	"	D, E, F, G, H.	
"	"	5th "	"	"	A, B ² , D, E, F, G, H.	
"	"	6th "	"	"	A, D, E, F, H.	
"	"	7th "	"	"	B, D, E, F, G, H.	
"	"	8th "	"	"	F, H.	
"	"	9th "	"	"	A, C, G, H.	
"	"	10th "	"	"	G.	
20.00	Sep. 2 '61,	1st series,	{ All white, plain back,	{ Head of Stephens to left; Hope and palmetto to right; female, infant Mercury, and bee-hive in centre.	1, 5, 9- ²	†† Stamped across right hand end with another date in red.
"	"	2d "	"	"	4, 6.	
"	"	Series A,	"	{ Sailor to left, ship in centre.	F.	
"	"		{ White, with denomination in red on face,	{ Blacksmith to right, Minerva to left, female with globe in centre.	A.**	
"	Ap. 6, '63,	1st series,	{ White, two 20s and one XX in blue on back,	{ Face same as Tens of same date.	B, G.	
"	"	2d "	"	"	E.††	
"	Feb. 17, '64,		{ Pink wavy face, four 20s and one TWENTY in blue on back,	{ Capitol at Richmond in centre; Stephens in right lower corner.	A, B ² , C ² , D ³ .	
"	"	1st series,	"	"	A, B, D.	
"	"	2d "	"	"	A, B ² , C, E.	
"	"	3d "	"	"	A, B, C, D.	
"	"	4th "	"	"	A, B, C, D ² .	
"	"	5th "	"	"	A ² , C, D.	
"	"	6th "	"	"	A ² , B, C, D.	
"	"	7th "	"	"	A, B, C, D.	
"	"	8th "	"	"	A, B, C.	
"	"	9th "	"	"	B, D.	
"	"	10th "	"	"	A, B ² , C.	
"	"	11th "	"	"	A, B ² .	

To be continued.